

The Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A surgical retractor, comprising:
 - 5 a handle having a longitudinal axis and proximal and distal ends;
 - a first coupling mechanism adjacent the proximal end of the handle; and
 - a blade member having a proximal end and a distal end,
 - wherein the blade member comprises a coupling element, and the coupling element is configured and dimensioned to connect with the first coupling mechanism.
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2. The retractor of claim 1, wherein the first coupling mechanism comprises a knob having a bore.
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3. The retractor of claim 2, wherein the bore is adapted to engage the coupling element of the blade member.
4. The retractor of claim 3, wherein the coupling element comprises a shaft.
5. The retractor of claim 4, wherein the shaft and the bore comprise mating threads for 20 releasably advancing the shaft within the bore.
6. The retractor of claim 5, wherein the handle comprises an opening, and the opening is configured and dimensioned to receive the knob.
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7. The retractor of claim 1, wherein the blade member comprises an aperture adjacent the distal end of the blade.
8. The retractor of claim 7, wherein the aperture is configured and dimensioned to allow a surgical tool to pass through the aperture.
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9. The retractor of claim 7, wherein the aperture is configured and dimensioned to allow an orthopedic implant to pass through the aperture.
10. The retractor of claim 1, wherein the distal end of the blade member comprises a 35 structure for stabilizing the retractor blade against bone.

11. The retractor of claim 1, wherein the distal end of the blade member comprises a hook-shape.
12. The retractor of claim 11, wherein the hook-shape comprises a "C"-shape.
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13. The retractor of claim 11, wherein the hook-shape comprises a "L"-shape.
14. The retractor of claim 1, further comprising a second coupling mechanism located on the handle for coupling a second surgical instrument to the handle.
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15. The retractor of claim 14, wherein the second surgical instrument comprises an endoscope.
16. The retractor of claim 15, wherein the endoscope is positioned to provide a view of the distal end of the retractor blade.
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17. The retractor of claim 15, further comprising an endoscope secured to the handle.
18. The retractor of claim 17, wherein the endoscope is positioned to view the distal end of the retractor blade.
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19. The retractor of claim 1, further comprising a second coupling mechanism, and the second coupling mechanism comprises a coupling member.
- 25 20. The retractor of claim 19, wherein the coupling member is configured and dimension to be received within the handle.
21. The retractor of claim 20, wherein the coupling member is telescopically received within the handle.
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22. The retractor of claim 20, wherein the coupling member is spaced from the handle.
23. The retractor of claim 22, wherein the coupling member contacts a second member.
- 35 24. The retractor of claim 23, wherein the second member contacts the handle.

25. The retractor of claim 23, wherein the coupling member and the second member are operatively associated to fixate a second surgical instrument with respect to the handle.

26. The retractor of claim 25, wherein the coupling member comprises a recess adapted
5 to receive a portion of the second surgical instrument.

27. The retractor of claim 26, wherein the recess has an inner surface, and the inner surface is adapted to clamp the portion of the second surgical instrument to the second member.

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28. The retractor of claim 1, further comprising another surgical instrument having a coupling element configured and dimensioned to connect with the first coupling mechanism.

15 29. The retractor of claim 28, wherein the other surgical instrument comprises a retractor blade.

30. The retractor of claim 1, further comprising a second handle transverse to the longitudinal axis.

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31. A method for treating bone comprising:
providing the surgical retractor of claim 1;
positioning an endoscope with respect to the blade member for viewing a surgical site;
25 making an incision in soft tissue and elevating the soft tissue fascia off a bone segment proximate the surgical site;
passing a portion of the blade member through the incision;
retracting the fascia off the bone segment with the blade member to form a cavity;
circumventing at least in part a bone segment with a portion of the blade member;
30 stabilizing the blade member on the bone segment;
viewing the bone segment through the endoscope; and
and performing a surgical procedure proximate the bone segment.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising securing the endoscope with respect to
35 the blade member.

33. The method of claim 31, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises passing an orthopedic implant through the cavity.

34. The method of claim 31, further comprising performing a part of the surgical procedure through an aperture of the blade member.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises passing a surgical tool through an aperture of the blade member.

10 36. The method of claim 35, wherein the tool is a drill.

37. The method of claim 35, wherein the tool is a burr.

38. The method of claim 35, wherein the tool is a syringe.

15 39. The method of claim 35, wherein the tool is a cannula.

40. The method of claim 34, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises passing an orthopedic implant through the aperture.

20 41. The method of claim 40, wherein the implant is a bone fastener.

42. The method of claim 40, wherein the implant is a screw.

25 43. The method of claim 40, wherein the implant is a bone void filler material.

44. The method of claim 31, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises securing an orthopedic implant to the bone segment.

30 45. The method of claim 44, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises fixating a fracture proximate the bone segment.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein the bone segment comprises a condylar neck.

47. The method of claim 44, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises performing an orthognathic procedure.

48. The method of claim 44, wherein performing the surgical procedure comprises a
5 condylar grafting procedure.

49. The method of claim 48, wherein the bone segment comprises a ramus.

50. The method of claim 48, wherein the bone segment comprises a condylar neck.

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51. A method for treating bone comprising:
providing a surgical retractor, comprising,
a handle having a longitudinal axis and proximal and distal ends,
a first coupling mechanism adjacent the proximal end of the handle, and
15 a blade member having a proximal end and a distal end,
wherein the blade member comprises a coupling element, and the coupling
element is configured and dimensioned to connect with the first coupling mechanism;
positioning an endoscope with respect to the blade member for viewing a surgical
site;
20 making an incision in soft tissue and elevating the soft tissue fascia off a bone
segment proximate the surgical site;
passing the blade member through the incision;
retracting the fascia off the bone segment with the retractor blade to form a cavity;
circumventing at least in part a bone segment with a portion of the blade member;
25 stabilizing the retractor blade on the bone segment;
viewing the bone segment through the endoscope; and
and performing a surgical procedure proximate the bone segment.

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